

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/782,620

Applicant(s)

BLAIR ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated 6/2/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

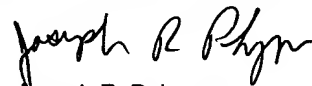
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 6/2/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-26** are pending.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin G. Shao on Friday, August 19, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In **claim 1**, lines 12 and 13, the word "that" was removed in line 12, so that "a separate display layer that to display" was changed to read "a separate display layer to display";

in **claim 17**, line 9, "displayer" was changed to read "display layer";

in **claim 25**, line 9, "displayer" was changed to read "display layer"; and

in **claim 26**, line 11, "displayer" was changed to read "display layer".

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 1-26** are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding ***claims 1, 7, and 8***, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the system, as claimed, include the features of storing the extracted link information, if the received file is a text-based file, in an output file separated from the electronic file, wherein if the electronic file is one of the text-based file and the CAD file, the output file is used to generate a separate display layer to display the extracted information in addition to information of the raster image, and wherein the separate display layer is inserted into the electronic RFQ format file such that the information of the display layer is displayed in response to an activation from the RFW format file. The closest prior art, previously noted as Edwards *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0069295) and Eichstaedt *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0016725) each fail to expressly disclose these features. These limitations, which were added in the amendment dated 6/2/05, render the claims allowable.

Regarding ***claims 9, 15 and 16***, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to have the system, as claimed, include the features of inserting information from the symbol output file into the RFQ format file as a separate display layer, such that the symbol information is displayed as a CTQ layer in the RFQ format file. The closest prior art, previously noted as Edwards *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0069295) and Eichstaedt *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0016725) each fail to expressly disclose these features. These limitations render the claims allowable.

Regarding *claims 17, 25, and 26*, in the examiner's opinion, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the system, as claimed, include the features of adding link information from the link output file to the RFQ format file, wherein each link is displayed in a separate display layer overlaying the RFQ format file, and wherein the link properties of each link is displayed in response to an activation from the displayed RFQ format file. The closest prior art, previously noted as Edwards *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0069295) and Eichstaedt *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0016725) each fail to expressly disclose these features. These limitations, which were added in the amendment dated 6/2/05, render the claims allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Coffman *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2004/0215467) discloses method for handling RFQ's under an electronic auction;

Avery *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0208365) discloses an on-line design system of distribution transformers, whereby the distribution transformer occurs before an RFQ is generated; and

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Thackston (U.S. Patent Number 6,928,396) discloses a virtual bidding process.

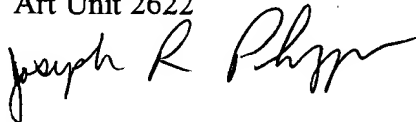
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622



jrp